Genesis 7:1

"The LORD said to Noah,

"Come with all of your household into the ship,

for I have seen your righteousness before me

in this generation.

Genesis 7:7-9

"Noah went into the ship with his sons,

his wife, and his sons' wives,

because of the floodwaters.

Clean animals,

unclean animals,

birds,

and everything that creeps on the ground

went by pairs to Noah into the ship,

male and female,

as GOD commanded Noah.”

Genesis 7:16

then the LORD shut him in.”

I.The Breaking of the Deep:

and The sky bent low,

felt close

heavy with breath.

The wind no longer played;

it trembled.

Deep underfoot,

the earth whispered,

“Rise.”

Then the fountains of the deep deep ocean broke open below

Water burst from the earth’s hidden veins,

and rain fell from above

from top and bottom, heaven and abyss.

The single land,

once one body,

softened beneath the weight of the waters.

and split apart

like rock forming into clay,

The world exhaled,

and its bones began to drift apart

Mountains uncurled from the sea

like dolphins seeking air.

Valleys appeared by relief.

Every river was a scar of the earth

Every lake a breath caught between sobs.

The earth was being remade

The great plate of the Pangea

had cracked,

it slid apart slowly,

carrying seeds and silence with them.

Beneath the waves,

Cain’s cities had sunken

Stone towers that had defied heaven

were now drawn down

into fire of the earth

and forgotten.

Their streets became magma,

their gardens into minerals.

Nothing of Adam’s soil remained.

not even memory dissolved in the dark.

Above,

Noah’s ark drifted

like an eyelid over the sky.

Within it, breath waited—

human, beast, bird—

the last chorus of the world.

The sea ruled

for forty days and forty nights

without mercy or malice.

and when the lord’s work was finished,

the waters began to flush back,

at the sound of thunder they came

mountains rose

the waters went down into the valleys,

and the earth swallowed it whole

The world was no longer young.

it had been weathered

scarred

wounded

And from the flood

begot a new world

the cuts of rivers,

lakes,

and peaks were born at last

When the rain ceased,

the air was silent again —

a silence that felt new.

a rainbow appeared

The ark came to rest

on the back of a mountain,

its wood still damp

with memory.

then Noah stepped onto trembling soil.

He looked upon a world

that no longer remembered

the sound of its own laughter.

The clouds parted,

and the sun — pale and uncertain —

touched the waters that remained.

Steam rose like prayer.

Then the doors were opened.

The beasts stirred,

their breath white in the morning.

The lions were blinded at the light,

the doves scattered upward,

Dinosaurs wandered into the forests

Noah blinked

and his family laughed

at last

he was finally free